



Grace Newsletter

May 2017

12 Months of Prayer—

May: Veterans

Beginning this month we will be praying for our veterans and for those currently active in the service. If you haven't already done so; please let us know if you are a Veteran by contacting the office at 459-4191. Watch for more direction on this prayer month in the following week.

LWML / Concordia Circle—

Concordia Circle/LWML meets monthly on the first Monday of each month. *However, please note for this month they will be meeting on Monday, **May 8th** at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.* All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. Hostess is Jacquie Rowen and devotions will be given by Ginny Neunaber. We will be cutting fleece so please bring scissors or other cutting tools. Contact Barbara James(208) 465-5084 with any questions or if you would like to become a member of LWML.



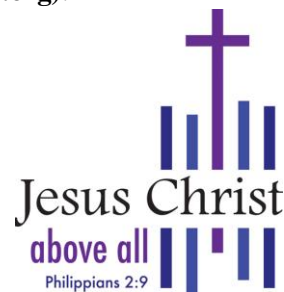
Mother's Day Poem—

When you thought I wasn't looking – Anonymous
All the things she taught you, just by being an excellent example.

When you thought I wasn't looking,
I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator,
and I wanted to paint another one.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat,
and I thought it was good to be kind to animals.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite
cake for me,
and I knew that little things are special things.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer,
and I believed there is a God I could always talk to.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me
goodnight,
and I felt loved.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your
eyes,
and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared
and I wanted to be everything that I could be.
When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked...
and wanted to say thanks for all the things
I saw when you thought I wasn't looking.

LWML Convention—

It's Time to Celebrate! The LWML is issuing a special invitation to come to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to celebrate 75 years (1942-2017) of God's blessings. Special exhibits and a 75th Anniversary Diamond Dazzle Gala Celebration! event on Saturday night will highlight the past and look toward the future. Bring your fellow LWMLers and let's celebrate this marvelous milestone. **Don't miss it.** Join us next month at the 37th Biennium LWML Convention June 22-25, 2017, at the Albuquerque Convention Center. **Please consider volunteering to help with the convention.** Take advantage of a registration discount for serving at least two 4-hour shifts. Send your Call for Workers form in as soon as possible to receive your assignment and a discount coupon before you register. A packet with a special registration form will be mailed to you; **please do not use the form included in the Quarterly.** Be sure to send in your registration as soon as possible as directed! For up-to-date convention information, see the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly* or visit the website at www.lwml.org/2017-convention. More details can be found on your district LWML website (utahidaholwml.org).



In This Issue

From the Pastor	page 2
Upcoming Events	page 3-4
Preschool	page 4-5
Youth Activities	page 6
Calendar of Events	page 7

“Our Anchor of Hope”

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you.” (1 Peter 1:3-4)

As I write this we’ve just celebrated Easter, the great event which gives us hope in every circumstance of life. The resurrection of Jesus is God’s declaration that, because Jesus lives, we will also live, not only now but forever with Him. The resurrection of Jesus is God’s declaration that nothing can separate of us from Him and His love.

Dr. William Brown, former president of Cedarville University, reflected on an experience he had on one of his travels to Russia. He wrote:

“As I walked down the streets of Moscow I felt conspicuous and could not figure out why. I wanted to blend in but it was obvious people knew I was not Russian. I asked the group of educators with whom I was working whether I was noticeable because of my clothes: jeans and a Chicago Bulls shirt.

“No, it’s not your clothes,” they replied

“What is it then?” I asked.

“The dozen or so teachers huddled together and talked for several minutes. One of them, speaking for the group finally answered politely, ‘It’s your face.’

“My face!” I laughed. ‘How does my face look different?’

“They talked again and then one of the teachers stood and quietly said, ‘You have hope.’”

All too often we think of hope as nothing more than wishful thinking, as some kind of longing or desire. We don’t normally think of hope as a certainty.

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But Biblical hope is the anchor for our life. Hope gives all things meaning and promise. Hope is a confident expectation that everything God has promised will come to pass. Therefore, hope is an eager anticipation of a guaranteed future. As St. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15: *“If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be more pitied than all men.”*

Christian hope, grounded on the sure and certain promises of God, causes us to live life differently than those without it. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians: *“We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.”* The grief death brings, while painful, does not crush us because we have God’s promise that He has defeated death and we have His promise that we will be with our loved ones who have died in Christ again.

Hope allows us to admit that this life is temporary, that the things of this world are here one day and gone the next and yet not be overwhelmed with a sense of meaninglessness.

In his article Dr. Brown reflected on the movie *Hope Floats* saying, “This movie attempted to salvage a positive attitude toward life in the face of adultery, divorce, and depression. The message of the movie is, that no matter what happens, we must go on with our lives.” And if you have nothing to attach yourself to, that’s all you can do.

According to the movie, like flotsam that floats on the sea, floating on the waves, hope floats above a world where bad things happen for no reason. Put on a happy face and maybe things will get better, maybe there’s something good around the corner.

This is not Biblical hope. The hope the Bible speaks of is an anchor for the soul. In fact, ultimately, the hope that the Bible points to is Jesus, Himself. It’s the living hope of the living Christ whose victorious resurrection has gained for us an inheritance that is eternal because we have been made children of God.

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Easter gives us the certainty that this eternal inheritance is already ours. Our hope is not based on what we see around us. It is based on what God has already done. Our hope is focused on the homeland which God has guaranteed is ours already.

And there is the key! As God’s people we have been shown the ending. We know that, through Christ, the war is already over. Christ is the winner and we are the ones who receive the rewards of His victory.

This is not an escape from life. We still live each day and face each circumstance that comes our way. But we do not do it alone and we have the promise no matter what we go through, we have a blessed future in store for us. This is the kind of certainty with which we were truly meant to live.

So, in certainty of Christ’s Easter victory, *“may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”* (Romans 15:13)

God bless you and I’ll see you in church!

Pastor Brooks



The next gathering of the Grace Book Club will be on Sunday, **May 21** at 7:00 pm. Meeting place is at Peggy Ledington's residence. We will be reading and discussing "The Orphan's Tale" by Pam Jenoff.

Summary: A powerful novel of friendship set in a traveling circus during World War II, *The Orphan's Tale* introduces two extraordinary women and their harrowing stories of sacrifice and survival. Sixteen-year-old Noa has been cast out in disgrace after becoming pregnant by a Nazi soldier and being forced to give up her baby. She lives above a small rail station, which she cleans in order to earn her keep... When Noa discovers a boxcar containing dozens of Jewish infants bound for a concentration camp, she is reminded of the child that was taken from her. And in a moment that will change the course of her life, she snatches one of the babies and flees into the snowy night. Noa finds refuge with a German circus, but she must learn the flying trapeze act so she can blend in undetected, spurning the resentment of the lead aerialist, Astrid. At first rivals, Noa and Astrid soon forge a powerful bond. But as the facade that protects them proves increasingly tenuous, Noa and Astrid must decide whether their friendship is enough to save one another—or if the secrets that burn between them will destroy everything.

Any and all women are invited to join us for a heartfelt talk and a glass of wine! If you have any questions, you can call Janet at 801-518-7319.



Becky Parry has a private room for rent in her Middleton home. She's looking for a Christian female. Great for someone going to college. Please keep Becky in mind if you hear of

or know of someone that would be interested. Contact Becky at 208-407-5407. Becky is also asking for prayers for her and Alli that finding the right person to share their home with will be in God's will. Thank you.



New Member Reception—

On Sunday, May 14, we will be formally receiving new members into our family here at Grace. Please plan on staying after church on May 14th for a time of refreshments and getting to know our new(er) members.

Visit from Former Pastor—



On Sunday, May 21st, Pastor Dave and Cindy Quail will be with us as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary this year. Pastor Quail served Grace Lutheran from 1980 to 1994. He is

currently serving St. Mark Lutheran Church in Conroe, TX.

Pastor Quail will host the Sunday morning Bible Class as well as deliver the sermon for that Sunday. We will also have a Potluck Dinner after worship. Be watching for more details on that. Please tell any people you know who might remember Pastor and Cindy so they can be here, as well.

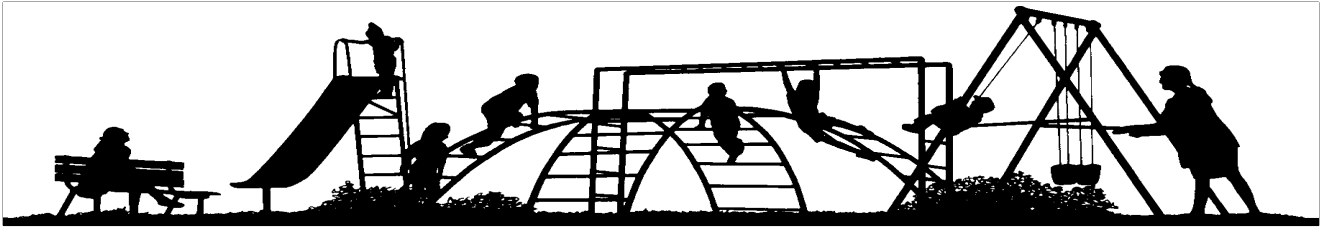
Reminder:



A convenient, consistent way to help our church grow

Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool has an Electronic Giving option available for your convenience. Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

Get started today! Ask for an authorization form in the church office. Or visit our church website.



Grace Lutheran Preschool

Remaining School Year Calendar

May 2 – 4 *Parent Teacher Conference*

May 18 *Last Day of Preschool*

May 18 *All Preschool Celebration*

(Family & friends are invited to celebrate this special day)



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR IS OPEN!

Check out our website gracelutherancaldwell.org for school information.

To register, you may do so by:

- stopping by the church office to pick up a registration form,
- contacting the church office(459-4191) for a registration form to be mailed or
- go online to <https://gracelutherancaldwell.org/tuition-and-registration/> and click on the link to fill out a registration form

To pay the registration fee and/or monthly tuition, you may do so with:

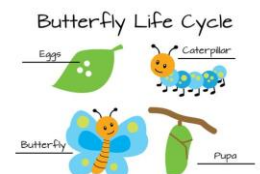
- cash or check made out to “Grace Lutheran Church”
- a monthly payment using Electronic Funds Transfer from your checking or savings account. Follow the link online to download and print a form or stop by the church office and our secretary will assist you in setting that up.
- a debit or credit card. Click the “**Make a Payment**” button on our online preschool page. You will need to create an online user profile and password the first time you use this option.

4 Year Old Class

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We started off last month with a new student. This makes 27 total for Pre- K, we're so excited! The Preschool teachers and Pastor Brooks attended a Seminar on April 8th at Beautiful Savior in Boise. The topic was 'Stronger Together - Building Strength in Staff Relationships.' I'm glad we all went as a team. We gained some helpful knowledge and got to tour their facility.

Our Bible verses were focused around Easter and this month will finish going through the Bible stories. Some of the students favorite crafts were: making cherry blossom trees using pink tissue paper, making a carrot garden with paper plates, lamb puppets, sorting colorful fruit on skewers for snack, fork painting a flower garden, painting with golf balls, using pastels over tape to then reveal a cross, and water colors. Our 10 caterpillars are now cocoons and we're eagerly anticipating their transformation into butterflies. Our red beets are a few inches tall and we'll soon plant sweet corn. The kids enjoy watching things sprout and grow. Some have transplanted everything we grow here into their own gardens at home.



As the end of the school year draws near we've been concentrating on lower case letters, all the shapes, colors, numbers and how to spell them. For Math we've been using Unifix cubes and tag bags; both are hands-on tools to help better understand concepts. They continue to do groupings, patterns, addition and subtraction with these types of manipulatives. We're practicing songs for the end of the year celebration which is on Thursday, May 18th at 6:30 in the Sanctuary. This school year sure flew by, but what a blessing the students have been. We pray that we helped in 'Building a spiritual & educational foundation for living in His grace,' like our class motto states. Thank you to all the families for entrusting your children with us.

God's blessings, Mrs. Christiansen & Ms. Patti

3 Year Old Class

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"He is not here: He is risen!" Matthew 28:6. The children learned this verse for April. Their confidence shows when they eagerly recite the verse in front of their classmates. April brought many rain showers and helped to build the children's chalk-drawing skills under the picnic shelter. The rain didn't know to hold off for recess and it didn't stop us from going outside. We built robots out of recyclable items for Earth Day. The children were a little hesitant about how to do this but once they let their imagination take over they really got into it. We decorated a cross with live flowers, we painted a large cardboard cross and made it look like stained glass, traced, cut and painted a paper cross, used floor tape to make a 3 cross painted picture (we made a lot of crosses in April), we also made butterflies and flowers out of coffee filters, cut their grass they planted, and observed what happens to newly planted flowers if they do not get water. Yes, we forgot to water the plants but the children saw how the plants "recovered" just by giving them water.



Our Bible verse for this month is "Trust the Lord with all your heart." Proverbs 3:5a. This month will mainly be a review of colors, shapes, letters & numbers. It will also include the ocean, fresh/salt water, animals in the ocean, Cinco de Mayo, and Mother's Day. The children took home the flowers they planted. We hope you were all able to find a spot in your garden or home for them to continue to grow.

Your child's family and friends are invited to attend our end of the year celebration here at Grace on May 18th at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available downstairs in our fellowship hall following the ceremony.

Thank you all so very much for sharing your child with us. We have enjoyed creating a teacher/student relationship with them and building/strengthening their relationship with God. We thank God for giving us the opportunity to share His Love with them.

Mrs. Farrell & Mrs. Gigray



1 John 4:19

We love because He first loved us.

Mother's Day Luncheon

Sunday, May 14 after church
Lunch will be served by the kids & men
Talent show by the kids



Kids need to sign up for the talent show with their Sunday School Teacher



It's time for all youth to say goodbye to our Seniors - Dylan, Maddie, Eli, Amanda, Andi & Ilse!

Join us on Sunday, May 21 at 6 PM at church for the Goodbye BBQ!
Please bring a side or dessert to share!

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.
Proverbs 31:10



**Camp Grace Summer Sunday School begins June 4
Adult Facilitators are needed!**

Sign up to serve for just one Sunday of the summer!

thank you!
for teaching Sunday School
Patty Eckman, Marlee Hubach, Maddie Mar, Jerry & Patti Lawson, Carla Shields, Amber Rau, Mark Elli, and Sharon Henson!

Vacation Bible School
July 10-14
Volunteers needed for
EVERYTHING!




**Family Adventure to Jump Creek
Saturday, May 20**

Meet at church at 2:30 PM
We will hike, take family pictures & then head to the Christiansen's house to roast hot dogs!

Please let Amy know you are coming.
Adventure Awaits

May 2017

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 7:00 pm Concordia University's Brass & Vocal Ensemble at Friendship	2 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 9:30 & 12:30 Pre-K Chapel 5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study at Amy's	3 <i>Preschool: 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 Foundations of Faith 7:30 Choir Practice	4 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise	5	6 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship in Denny's at Flying J
7 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship w/ Holy Communion Greeters: Todd & Amber Rau	8 7:00 pm LWML / Concordia Circle	9 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study at Amy's	10 <i>Preschool: 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 Foundations of Faith 7:30 Choir Practice	11 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 6:00 pm Theology on Tap	12	13 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship in Denny's at Flying J
14 Mother's Day 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship with Reception of New Members <i>Board of Trustees</i> <i>Board of Education</i> Mother's Day Luncheon after Service Greeters: Mike & Lillian Pierce	15	16 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 9:30 & 12:30 Pre-K Chapel Newsletter Deadline 5:45 pm Exercise 6:00 pm Elder's 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study at Amy's	17 <i>Preschool: 4's</i> Bulletin Deadline 10:30 Foundations of Faith 7:30 Choir Practice	18 <i>Preschool: 4's & 3's</i> 1:00 pm Quilters PRESCHOOL CELEBRATION 6:30 PM (both classes) <i>7:30 p.m. Council</i>	19	20 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship in Denny's at Flying J 2:30 Jump Creek Family Adventure see p. 6
21 75th Anniversary Event 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship w/ Holy Communion <i>Bible Study & Sermon given by Pastor Quail – Potluck Dinner after Worship</i> 6:00 pm Goodbye BBQ – see p. 6 7:00 pm Grace Book Club Greeters: Becky & Alli Parry	22	23 5:45 pm Exercise 7:00 pm Last Women's Bible Study at Amy's	24 Bulletin Deadline 10:30 Foundations of Faith 7:30 Choir Practice	25 1:00 pm Quilters 5:45 pm Exercise 6:00 pm Theology on Tap	26	27 8:00 am Group Bible Fellowship in Denny's at Flying J
28 9:15 am Christian Education 10:30 am Family Worship Greeters: Margie Pate & Sara Upson	29 Memorial Day	30 5:45 pm Exercise	31 Bulletin Deadline 10:30 Foundations of Faith	"We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing." 2 Thessalonians 1:3	